PART II.

Grand Royal Arch Chapter.

1831.

ANNUAL MEETING.

At the Annual Meeting of the M.E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, at Mason's Hall, on Tuesday evening, September 13th, A. L. 5831.

PRESENT:

E. ROBERT LASH, . .	Grand High Priest, *pro tem.*
" CHARLES WELLS, . .	Grand King, *pro tem.*
" HENRY PURKETT, . .	Grand Scribe, *pro tem.*
" ABRAHAM A. DAME, .	Grand Treasurer.
" SAMUEL HOWE, . .	Grand Secretary.
" JOHN R. BRADFORD, .	Grand Marshal.
" SIMON W. ROBINSON, .	Grand Steward.
Comp. JOSIAH BALDWIN, . .	Grand Tyler.

Members.

E. and Rev. PAUL DEAN, E. DANIEL L. GIBBENS,
E. JOHN J. LORING,

The following Chapters were represented, viz:—St. Andrew's, St. Paul's, Mount Zion, and Thomas.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ample form, and several visiters admitted by vote.

The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following report was read and accepted, viz:

The Committee of Finance of the Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, respectfully report: That they have examined the books, accounts and records of the Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary, which they find kept in their usual correct manner.

The Treasurer had in funds at the adjustment of his account the last year, the sum of . .	$1091 63
He has received from several Chapters, . .	82 00
And allowed for interest on money in his hands,	55 00
Which amounts to	$1230 63
He has during the year paid for sundry expenses of the Grand Chapter, including the sum of $40 to the Board of Relief, . . .	231 00
For which the necessary vouchers were produced.	
Leaving a balance now in his hands of . .	$998 84

The Grand Treasurer, as usual, declines any compensation for his services.

The Committee recommend that forty dollars be allowed the Grand Secretary for his services the past year.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN R. BRADFORD,
GILBERT NURSE,
ELIAS HASKELL, } *Committee of Finance.*

Boston, Sept. 12, 1831.

On motion, *Voted*, To proceed to the election of officers.

The Grand Chapter resolved itself into Committee of the whole,—Rev. Comp. Paul Dean in the chair.

Comps. John J. Loring, Gilbert Nurse, and Lemuel Gay, were appointed a Committee to collect, assort and declare the votes.

The following companions were unanimously re-elected to the respective offices set against their names.

M.E. and Rev. SAMUEL CLARKE,	Grand High Priest.
E. and Rev. CHARLES TRAIN,	Grand King.
" CHARLES WELLS, . .	Grand Scribe.
" ABRAHAM A. DAME, .	Grand Treasurer.
" SAMUEL HOWE, . .	Grand Secretary.

E. Comp. Robert Lash was appointed a Committee to inform the Grand High Priest of his re-election.

The Committee of the whole then rose, and reported the foregoing elections, which were approved by the Grand Chapter.

The following appointments have been made by the M.E. Grand High Priest, viz:

E. Comp. ROBERT Lash of Boston,	Deputy Grand High Priest.
Rev. Comp. SEBASTIAN STREETER of Boston,	Grand Chaplains.
" " SAMUEL BARRETT of Boston,	
" " SETH ALDEN of Marlborough,	
" " WILLIAM MORSE of Nantucket,	
E. Comp. JOHN R. BRADFORD,	Grand Marshal.
Comp. ELIJAH ATHERTON,	Grand Lecturers.
" EDWARD A. RAYMOND,	
" JOHN R. BRADFORD,	Committee of Finance.
" ELIAS HASKELL,	
" GILBERT NURSE,	
" MICHAEL ROULSTONE,	Committee on Charity.
" SAMUEL HOWE,	
" SIMON W. ROBINSON,	

Comp. SIMON W. ROBINSON, } Grand Stewards.
" FRANCIS R. BIGELOW, }
" JOSIAH BALDWIN, . . Grand Tyler.

Voted, That the sum of forty dollars be paid to the Masonic Board of Relief, to be disposed of for charitable purposes the present year.

Parts of lectures were given on the Mark and Royal Arch degrees, and the Grand Chapter was closed in ancient form.

A true record.

Attest,

SAMUEL HOWE,
Grand Secretary.

CIRCULAR.

To the Chapters under the jurisdiction of the Grand Chapter of Massachusetts:

In authorizing the Grand Secretary to publish and transmit to you the Annual Report of the Grand Chapter, I embrace the opportunity to accompany it with a few remarks, which may not be deemed unimportant or useless at the present time.

Every member of our fraternity who understands the principles of the Masonic institution, knows that friendship, unanimity and peace are its strength, its support, its ornament, and its glory. Every one who possesses the pure, benevolent, affectionate spirit of

Masonry, rejoices in every indication that harmony and all good feeling reign in and characterize all the transactions of our societies; for he then has a pledge and feels a confidence, that the institution will successfully withstand all external opposition and be permanent, and not only permanent, but a blessing also to its friends and the world.

The Communications of this Grand Chapter have always been attended with interest. The condescending, benevolent, peaceful spirit of Masonry, and I may add of Christianity, has been visible in, and has distinctly marked all its deliberations and proceedings. Its records, *the fairness and integrity of which cannot be impeached*, afford pleasing and incontrovertible evidence, that our association is founded on strictly moral and benevolent principles, and that these principles have invariably directed its transactions.

It is with much satisfaction that I now inform the companions under this jurisdiction, that the communications of the Grand Chapter, the parent and the bulwork of Royal Arch Masonry in this Commonwealth, continue to be attended with unabated interest; and that harmony and peace, and the most disinterested and benevolent feelings characterize all its deliberations and purposes. In no period since the foundation of the Chapter, have the members been more firmly united in the bonds of fraternal affection, or discovered a stronger attachment to, or interest in the permanency and usefulness of the institution. In our meetings there is but one feeling, and this, attachment and unyielding adherence to the principles of Masonry; and there is but one purpose, and this, to adopt every prudent and judicious measure to promote the prosperity and best good of the Subordinate Chapters, to preserve our institution from injury, secure its permanency, and to render it, as it may be, a public blessing. I am persuaded that this information, companions, must give you, and every friend of our order, and every lover of good principles, high, unmixed satisfaction. It must be a great gratification to you to know, what I confidently assure you is the fact, that while storms and tempests are raging without, perfect peace, calmness and harmony reign within our sacred temple. And I am convinced that this knowledge will in-

spire you with confidence and firmness, and be a fresh and powerful incitement *to go on your way rejoicing.*

I am aware that hints are often circulated that the Charters of our Masonic institutions will be destroyed and our association dissolved; these are not the suggestions of our friends, and are, we trust, equally void of truth as of good feeling; for be assured my companions, such a purpose has never been, even the most indirectly, suggested in this Grand Chapter, or by any of our members,—no, my beloved brethren, we are firm and united in the faith that our Grand Masonic Charter, universally acknowledged by the *good* and the *true*, can never be given up, while wisdom is esteemed, or virtue honored. Setting aside altogether the powerful and irresistible *Masonic* reasons, why our Institution should not and cannot be dissolved, I speak advisedly when I say, that we owe it to society, to government, to religion and to the world, to adhere to it with unabated and unyielding firmness. I feel morally certain, that the same spirit which is now seeking with so much earnestness, and with so much injustice, the destruction of Masonry, will, if this purpose can be accomplished, attempt the subversion of every institution, which is now the glory and happiness of this land. We know, and the public know, or *may* know, that our association is purely a social, benevolent, moral one. If we yield this to those who call for its surrender, a demand will soon be made upon us to yield something else; until every thing shall be gone, which is dear to us as men, as christians, and as members of civil society. I do not say that all the same men will seek the overthrow of other good institutions who are opposed to the Masonic; for I am ready to believe that there are honest and good men who entertain prejudices against Masonry; but I do say, that the spirit which is seeking our destruction, will, if not resisted and checked, destroy every thing which we hold dear. We owe it, therefore, to religion and government, to be firm and unwavering in our adherence to an innocent, benevolent, good institution; and religion and government, as they regard their own welfare, will lend us their countenance and support; while we continue to maintain the character of virtuous men and citizens, they will not suffer us to be injured for supporting our just rights.

I have expressed to you, companions, my own convictions, and my views of duty. If your convictions and views accord with mine, as I am pursuaded they must, you will permit me to advise you to be firm and unwavering in your support of the institution. You will meet with trials, perhaps suffer injury. Let none of these things move you. When reviled, revile not again; return good for evil; possess and manifest always a forbearing, peaceful, benevolent spirit; pursue your way with prudence and discretion, and never let your good be evil spoken of. In your occasional meetings, which the fear of censure should not induce you to omit, you may improve your minds, assist each other in cultivating all good dispositions, and strengthen your affection for, and interest in each other. And while you become more and more firmly united in the bonds of affection, let it be seen that Masonic benevolence is not selfish; that your charity and good will are as extensive as the family of man. Endeavor by judicious conversation, and by pure example, to obviate and remove the doubts and objections of those who are honestly opposed to us; and to shew to the world that our institution is in fact what it professes to be, a strictly moral and benevolent one. Thus doing, no designs formed against you can ultimately prosper.

With a deep interest in the Masonic institution, and with the best wishes for the prosperity of the Subordinate Chapters,

I am your friend and companion,

SAMUEL CLARKE,
Grand High Priest.

Princeton, Nov. 1, 1831.

STATED MEETING.

At a Stated Meeting of the M.E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, at Mason's Hall, Tuesday evening, December 13th, A. L. 5831.

PRESENT:

M.E. and Rev. SAMUEL CLARKE,	Grand High Priest.
E. LEMUEL SHATTUCK,	Grand King, *pro tem.*
" LEMUEL GAY,	Grand Scribe, *pro tem.*
" ABRAHAM A. DAME,	Grand Treasurer.
" SAMUEL HOWE,	Grand Secretary.
" JOHN R. BRADFORD,	Grand Marshal.
" SIMON W. ROBINSON, Comp. FRANCIS R. BIGELOW,	Grand Stewards.
" JOSIAH BALDWIN,	Grand Tyler.

The following Chapters were represented, viz:— St. Andrew's, St. Paul's, Mount Zion, Thomas, and Concord.

The Grand Chapter was opened in due form, and several visiters admitted by vote.

The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

A communication was received from the Secretary of the Board of Directors, respecting a place of meeting in the Masonic Temple; whereupon it was *Voted*, That Comps. John R. Bradford, Simon W. Robinson, and Abraham A. Dame, be appointed a Committee to unite with committees from other Masonic Institutions on that subject.

On motion, *Voted*, That the Deputy Grand High Priest be authorized and empowered to represent this Grand Chapter in the Board of Directors of Mason's Hall, and to act in said Board on all subjects touching the interests of this Grand Chapter.

On motion of Comp. Abraham A. Dame, it was *Voted*, That the warrant granted Bethlehem Chapter, be extended the further time of one year.

Parts of lectures were given on the Mark and Royal Arch degrees, and the Grand Chapter was closed in ancient form.

A true record.

Attest,

SAMUEL HOWE,
Grand Secretary.

STATED COMMUNICATION.

At the Stated Communication of the M.E. Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Massachusetts, at the Masonic Temple, June 12th, A. L. 5832.

PRESENT:

E. ROBERT LASH,	Gr. High Priest, *pro tem.*
" EDWARD A. RAYMOND,	Grand King, *pro tem.*
" CHARLES WELLS,	Grand Scribe.
" ABRAHAM A. DAME,	Grand Treasurer.
" SAMUEL HOWE,	Grand Secretary.
" JOHN R. BRADFORD,	Grand Marshal.
" SIMON W. ROBINSON,	Grand Steward.
Comp. JOSIAH BALDWIN,	Grand Tyler.

Members.

Rev. PAUL DEAN, E. DAN'L L. GIBBENS.

The following Chapters were represented, viz:— St. Andrew's, St. Paul's, and Mount Zion.

The Grand Chapter was opened in ancient form, and several visiters admitted by vote.

The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

On motion, *Voted*, That a sum not exceeding two hundred and forty dollars, be appropriated to pay the expenses of the delegation of this Grand Chapter, to the meeting of the General Grand Chapter of the United States at Baltimore in September next.

The Committee for providing a place for the future meetings of this Grand Chapter, reported, that they had, in conjunction with committees from the other Masonic Institutions in the city, engaged this Hall and the adjacent rooms, at an annual rent of $350, which report was accepted.

Parts of lectures were given on the Mark and Royal Arch degrees, and the Grand Chapter closed in ancient form.

A true record,

Attest,

SAMUEL HOWE,
Grand Secretary.